

# **Sales Tax Committee Meeting**

## **Summary Minutes**

### **September 27, 2012**

Absent members: *Mr. Terrance Hinson, Mr. Mark Tarmey, and Mr. Bill Tucker*

#### **Meeting Began at 4:05 p.m.**

The Chairman reminded the Committee that Reverend R.B. Holmes resigned from the Sales Tax Committee and introduced Ms. Glenda Thorton as Mayor Mark's new appoint to the Sales Tax Committee. Ms. Thorton's appoint will be confirmed during the October 10, 2012 City Commission meeting. Ms. Thorton did not participate in the voting process during this meeting.

#### **Item #1: Consideration of the City, County, Economic Development Council, and Community Partners Proposal for Economic Development Portion of the Local Government Infrastructure Surtax**

Ken Morris, Director of Economic Development and Business Partnerships for the County, continued his presentation from the August 23, 2012 meeting. Mr. Morris presented on the strengths of the proposal, and further explained the proposed economic development structure.

Upon the conclusion of the presentation, the members of the Economic Development Panel were introduced and spoke briefly on the importance of this issue in the community. The panel of community partners included: Dr. Jim Murdaugh, Tallahassee Community College, Mr. Keith Bowers, Florida A&M University, and Mr. John Fraser, Florida State University.

The Committee had an opportunity to discuss among themselves and ask questions of the panel. Several questions were asked about the proposed governing framework of the economic development. In addition, the Committee had several questions for the panel on incubators and funding for programs similar to the one located in at the University of Central Florida.

Due to other commitments, the panel concluded their presentation. After the panel left, the Committee continued to thoroughly discuss economic development and the proposal presented by Economic Development Council and County and City staff.

Ms. Henree Martin made motion to approve the proposed governance structure. Mr. Todd Sperry seconded. The Committee discussed the motion and during the discussion, Ms. Martin withdrew her motion.

Subsequently, the Chairman made a motion to ask Leon County, City of Tallahassee, Tallahassee Chamber of Commerce, members of the proposed E-TCC, and Economic Development Council, to present to the Committee at a future meeting with recommendations on projects that drive economic development, leverage our current assets, and create a unified approach to develop an economic development plan. The motion was seconded by Ms. Henree Martin. The motion passed unanimously.

**Item #2: Citizens to be Heard**

Ms. Pam Hall addressed the committee regarding placemaking. She supported the discussion of establishing different incubators throughout the community to promote intellectual placemaking. Ms. Hall also urged the committee not to ignore this area's strong physical placemaking possibilities.

Ms. Sherry Kelly the Market District Merchants Association President, Mr. Warren Jones, Tallahassee Memorial Hospital CEO, Mr. Sam Varn, Market district Merchants Association Vice President presented the committee with the following Market District potential projects for consideration:

- Traffic Safety
- Public Spaces- pedestrian bridges, McClay storm water pond amenity
- Gateways-Visitor's center
- Signage
- Streetscape Beautification

**Item #3: Approval of Summary Minutes for the August 23, 2012 Meeting of the Leon County Sales Tax Committee**

Mr. Bill Peebles made a motion to approve the summary minutes for the August 23, 2012 meeting of the Sales Tax Committee. The motion was seconded by Mr. Todd Sperry. The motion passed unanimously.

**Item #4: Preliminary Discussion Regarding the Decision Making Process for Project Evaluation**

Mr. Alan Rosenzweig, Deputy County Administrator, discussed the proposed decision making process, and recommended a super majority vote to approve. Mr. Rosenzweig stated that throughout the process project may be added, deleted, or modified based on a simple majority vote. This will help ensure that the Committee's the final recommended project list properly balances the evaluation criteria with geographical diversity.

Mr. Curtis Richardson moved to approve the decision making process for project evaluation. The motion was seconded by Mr. William Messer. The motion passed unanimously. The approved decision making process is attached.

The committee requested the following groups be invited to future meetings and/or Open Houses to their potential projects for consideration. In addition, the Committee added a November 29<sup>th</sup> and January 10<sup>th</sup> meeting to their calendar in order to allow each group time to present to the Committee.

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|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| ▪ FAMU, FSU, TCC regarding  | ▪ Capital City Chamber            |
| Infrastructure Improvements | ▪ Hispanic Chamber                |
| ▪ StarMetro                 | ▪ Water Resources Committee       |
| ▪ Airport                   | ▪ FDOT and BP 2000 funding issues |
| ▪ Gateways                  | ▪ Woodville Sewer Project         |
| ▪ Performing Arts Center    | ▪ Underground Utilities           |
| ▪ Sports Complex            | ▪ CRTPA                           |
| ▪ Convention Center         | ▪ Leon County School Board        |

**Other Committee Business:**

The Committee's next meeting will be held on Thursday, October 11, 2012 in the First Floor Program Room of the Main Library at 4pm.

The next Sales Tax Committee Open House will be held on Thursday, November 15, 2012 in the First Floor Program Room of the Main Library at 6pm.

**Meeting Adjourned at 7:11 p.m.**